



HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards

Abbotts Prayer 2005

Grape Variety

64% merlot and 36% cabernet sauvignon grapes grown on Stephen and Prue Henschke's Lenswood vineyard in the Adelaide Hills.

Technical Details

Harvest Date: 20-28 April | Alcohol: 14% | pH: 3.58 | Acidity: 5.7g/L

Maturation

Matured in 75% new and 25% seasoned French hogsheads for 18 months prior to blending and bottling.

Background

Fifth-generation winemaker Stephen Henschke and his wife Prue selected Lenswood in 1981 as a new vineyard site, just 50km from the ancient Mount Edelstone and Hill of Grace vineyards in the Eden Valley. At 550m, the Lenswood vineyard slopes offer not only beautiful views toward the old vine country but also higher rainfall and humidity at the right time of year, cooler temperatures to retain natural acidity, and still enough sunshine to fully ripen the grapes. The Abbotts Prayer label links together the history, religion and pioneers of this mountainous region. The property along Coldstore Road, including the vineyards in the area originally known as Abbotts Flat, was established in the late 1800s and pioneered by the first settler, T N Mitchell.

Vintage Description

The 2005 vintage was early, warm, quick and fantastic quality with good yields. Above average winter rains led into a beautiful spring. Summer was wet and wild with weekly thunderstorms - helping to retain subsoil moisture. February was dry and this continued right through autumn. It was an early, compact harvest with above average yields. 2005 is sure to be ranked as one of the best on record.

Wine Description

Deep crimson with red hues. Sweet and spicy with aromas of violets, forest hints, dusty mulberries and blueberries, and developing nuances of cedar and fruitcake. A lush and concentrated palate shows sweet, ripe fruits layered with complexity and texture; structural fine-grained tannins and a long, elegant finish.



Cellaring Potential

Exceptional vintage,
15+ years (from vintage).

Reviewed September 2009

C A HENSCHKE & CO

PO Box 100 Keyneton SA 5353 | T: +61 8 8564 8223 | F: +61 8 8564 8294 | E: info@henschke.com.au | W: www.henschke.com.au